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PA/HO Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
June 21, 2006



Intelligence Information Cable

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DIST 10 MARCH 1972

COUNTRY IRAQ/USSR/SYRIA

DOI EARLY MARCH 1972

SUBJECT

[REDACTED]

ACQ (10 MARCH 1972)

FIELD NO.

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1. IN EARLY MARCH 1972, AS A RESULT OF HIS MID-FEBRUARY 1972 VISIT TO THE USSR, SADDAM HUSAYN AL-T I K R I T I, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE IRAQI REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL (RCC), WAS PLANNING TO CONCLUDE IN THE NEAR FUTURE A MILITARY, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL AGREEMENT WITH THE USSR.

2. IRAQ AND THE USSR ARE EACH PREPARING A DRAFT VERSION OF THE AGREEMENT. FOR ITS PART, THE USSR HAS SET FOUR PRECONDITIONS TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE AGREEMENT:

A. FORMATION OF A UNITED FRONT GOVERNMENT IN IRAQ IN WHICH THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF IRAQ WOULD PARTICIPATE;

B. PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR THE USSR NAVY AT IRAQI PORTS, IN RETURN FOR SOVIET TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE IRAQI NAVY;

C. CONSULTATION BETWEEN IRAQ AND THE USSR IN CASE OF A DISPUTE INVOLVING EITHER COUNTRY AND A THIRD PARTY; AND

D. ESTABLISHMENT OF CLOSER TIES AT ALL LEVELS BETWEEN IRAQ AND SYRIA.

3. AHMAD HASAN AL-B A K R, PRESIDENT OF THE RCC, DOES NOT WANT CLOSE TIES WITH SYRIA. AL-BAKR FEARS THIS WOULD PLACE

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IRAQ IN A POSITION OF HAVING A COMMON BORDER WITH ISRAEL AT A TIME
WHEN PART OF SYRIA IS OCCUPIED BY ISRAELI FORCES. AL-BAKR'S
VIEW COINCIDES WITH THE VIEW HELD BY SYRIAN REFUGEES IN IRAQ,
INCLUDING FORMER PRESIDENT OF SYRIA AMIN AL-H A F I Z.

3. [REDACTED] DISSEM: [REDACTED]

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